

## SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

On page 31, lines 3-10: please amend the paragraph at this location as indicated below using ~~strikethrough~~ and underline:

- “An irregular LDPC code may also be described using a bipartite graph.
- 5 However, the degree of each set of nodes within an irregular LDPC code may be chosen according to some distribution. Therefore, for two different variable nodes,  $v_{i_1}$  and  $v_{i_2}$ , of an irregular LDPC code,  $|E_v(i_1)|$  may not equal to  $|E_v(i_2)|$ . This relationship may also hold true for two check nodes. The concept of irregular LDPC codes was originally introduced within ~~M. Luby, M. Mitzenmacher, A. Shokrollahi, D. Spielman and V. Stemann, “Practical loss-resilient codes,” IEEE Trans. Inform. Theory, Vol. 47, pp. 569-584, Feb. 2001~~ M. Luby, M. Mitzenmacher, M. A. Shokrollahi, D. A. Spielman, and V. Stemann, “Practical Loss-Resilient Codes,” Proc. 29<sup>th</sup> Symp. on Theory of Computing, 1997, pp. 150-159.”
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